

September, 2006

Volume 3, Issue 6

**Note from the Consul General**

*Dear friends,*

*It was wonderful to welcome Ambassador Robert McCallum and Mrs. Mimi McCallum to our district this month. I know they had a great time, thanks to the warm welcome many of you showed them, and I'm confident they will be back to visit again soon.*

*Now, to my fellow American citizens: VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE!*

*Please see the last page of the newsletter on how to do it!*

*Warm regards, Robin*

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

AMB McCallum's Bio **3**

U.S. Speaker Nicholas Lardy **4**

APEC Gas Forum **5**

DVC on U.S. Mid-Term Elections **6**

Liebe Group 2006 Spring Field Day **7**

DVC on WMDs and Nuclear Arms Control **8**

CG Visits Port Hedland **9**

**IN THE NEXT ISSUE:**

U.S. Embassy's Top Economic Official, Matt Mathews, visits Perth

Antique American Quilts Visit Northampton

# PERTH PERSPECTIVES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL

16 St. Georges Terrace, Perth 6000, WA, Australia

Phone: 08 9202 1224 <http://perth.usconsulate.gov/perth>



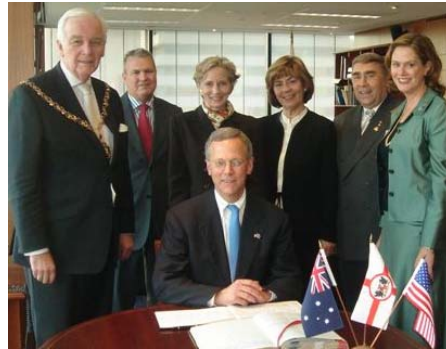
## New U.S. Ambassador Robert D. McCallum Jr & Mrs. Mary (Mimi) McCallum Visit Perth



**From left: Federal AAA Pres. Bronwyn Halbisich, AAA Pres. Max Kay, CG McClellan, Norma Kay, Mrs. Mary (Mimi) McCallum, Ambassador Robert McCallum, AAA Patron Sir Charles Court and Lady Court.**

U.S. Ambassador Robert D. McCallum Jr. spoke to participants in the Federal Convention of the Australian American Association at a gala dinner during his September 6 to 10 visit to Perth. The Ambassador also spoke at an American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham) luncheon. At these events, Ambassador McCallum highlighted the strength of the U.S.- Australian relationship and his priorities for his tenure as ambassador. He interlaced his speeches with humorous anecdotes, including one about Australian Rules Football. The Ambassador and Mrs. McCallum attended their first AFL game in Perth, and predicted that this would be only the first of many visits to Western Australia. (Continued Page 3.)

# Highlights of Ambassador McCallum's Visit







## U.S. Ambassador Robert D. McCallum, Jr. Biography

Robert D. McCallum, Jr. presented his credentials as the Ambassador of the United States of America to Australia on August 23, 2006. Ambassador McCallum previously was the Associate Attorney General, the third ranking official at the United States Department of Justice, from July 1, 2003. He had earlier served from September, 2001, as the Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Division, the Department's largest litigating component.

Before entering government, Ambassador McCallum was a partner with the Atlanta, Georgia, law firm of Alston & Bird, specializing in trial and appellate practice. During his twenty-eight years with that firm, he was appointed by the Attorney General of the State of Georgia as a Special Assistant Attorney General, and he was the recipient of the Atlanta Bar Association Leadership Award in 2001. Ambassador McCallum has authored numerous legal articles and publications and also served as a lecturer on a variety of legal topics.

Over his career, Ambassador McCallum has been active in numerous civic organizations, including service as a Director of the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain, North Carolina; President of the Yale Club of Georgia; State and District Secretary for the Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committees; Georgia Representative of the Yale Law School Alumni/ae Association; and as Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Choate Rosemary Hall School in Wallingford, Connecticut.

Ambassador McCallum was born in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1946. He attended Yale University as an undergraduate on a National Merit Scholarship, receiving his B.A. ; cum laude, in History in 1968. After graduation, he attended Christ Church at Oxford University on a Rhodes Scholarship, earning a B.A. in Jurisprudence with First Class Honors in 1971. He obtained his J.D. from Yale Law School on an NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship in 1973 and entered the practice of law that same year.

An avid sportsman in his youth, Ambassador McCallum was captain of the Yale tennis team, the point guard on the Yale basketball team, and a member of the university sides in both at Oxford. He continues a keen interest in sports of all sorts but now only as a spectator.

Ambassador McCallum married Mary ("Mimi") Rankin Weems McCallum in 1969. In addition to spectator sports, their interests include hiking, fishing, the visual arts, architecture, and the theater. They have two adult sons.

Continued from Page 1

During his visit to Perth, the Ambassador met with Governor Ken Michael, Premier Alan Carpenter, the Chief Justice, the President of the Legislative Council, the Leader of the Opposition and the Lord Mayor of the City of Perth. The Ambassador and Mrs. Mimi McCallum also enjoyed a ministerial luncheon hosted by the Premier, an afternoon tea with U.S. exchange program alumni, receptions hosted by the Governor and the Lord Mayor, an official ribbon cutting event to celebrate the renovation of the Consulate, a 9/11 multi-faith commemoration observance at St. George's Cathedral, and receptions hosted by the Governor and the Lord Mayor for the AAA Convention. Mrs. McCallum also enjoyed separate visits to the West Australian Art Gallery, His Majesty's Theatre and Notre Dame University. Media involvement included interviews on ABC and 6PR Radio and a press conference..

## U.S. Speaker Dr. Nicholas Lardy

Senior Fellow at the Institute for International Economics Dr. Nicholas Lardy visited Perth under the U.S. Speakers' Program Aug. 31—Sept. 1. He focused on China's rise as a global economic and political power. Throughout his speaking engagements with media decision makers, senior academics, government officials, and business professionals, Dr. Lardy provided an in-depth analysis on how China's economy has expanded significantly from 1978, making it the world's fourth largest economy today and how the sustainability of this growth is critical.

Dr. Lardy commenced his Perth program with an internal briefing with several section editors and decision makers at *The West Australian*. He then spoke at a luncheon engagement on "*China's Economic Challenge – Implications for the U.S. & Australia*" to over 200 key WA business community industry, and government leaders as well as Consulate staff. The speaking engagement was hosted by the Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA) and Rio Tinto. Dr. Lardy put forward an analysis on how China has moved from a closed economy financially with no foreign investment, negligible foreign debt and miniscule foreign exchange reserves to its current



Dr. Nicholas Lardy

position as one of the world's most open environments for direct investment. Dr. Lardy explained that China has substantial influence on commodity prices, i.e. oil and iron ore. He said that challenges include deepening China's integration into the global economy, furthering reforms, and supporting China's transition to a more pluralistic political system.

In the evening, Dr. Lardy attended a cultural outreach event hosted by the Consul General at the CG's Residence with approximately 30 guests from the music and arts community in Perth in attendance. The event was held in honor of *The Musical Island Boys* – champions of the 2006 Barbershop Harmony Society International Collegiate Quartet Contest.

On Friday morning, Dr. Lardy spoke at an off the record informal breakfast hosted by WA Business News to an intimate group of key WA business and industry leaders on China's Economic Challenge and its implications for the U.S. & Australia. Following the breakfast, he spoke at an internal briefing for over 30 Rio Tinto Iron Ore staff. His remarks focused more specifically on global trade and how as a global trader China has soared from number 30 to number 3 in the world. By 2007 or 2008, China will have displaced Germany to rank as the number two trader globally, he said. Dr. Lardy then spoke on "*Not a Zero Sum Game: The U.S. Free Trade Agreement and How it Helps Australian Free Trade in Asia*" at Curtin University to approximately 20 Curtin Corner academics. He pointed out that the key issues for Australia and the U.S. are to maintain an open global trading system, especially if the DOHA round is not revived.



Dr. Lardy at the CEDA Luncheon above and at the Curtin Corner speaking engagement below.



## APEC APGAS Forum

The Chairman of the U.S. Federal Regulator Commission, Joseph Kelliher, and James Slutz, Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Office of Oil and Gas, U.S. Department of Energy, visited Perth in September to speak at the APEC APGAS Forum. The Forum seeks to create consensus among the 21 APEC economies on actions necessary to ensure free and unhindered trade in natural gas and liquefied natural gas (LNG). Mr. Slutz also participated in a working meeting for the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development & Climate and met with reps of U.S. energy companies, accompanied by Consulate Perth's Economic Assistant, Gina Soos. It wasn't all work, however: Jim enjoyed a pleasant weekend in the state's southwest and managed to fit in a surfing lesson!



**Guests at a luncheon hosted by the CG in honor of visiting Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chairman Joseph Kelliher and U.S. Department of Energy Deputy Assistant Secretary, James Slutz**

## American Women's Club Celebrates Founders' Day



**CG McClellan presents 5-year pins to Gail Erickson, Liz Pervan, Katherine Jafari and Kimberly Woodward**

CG McClellan spoke at the September 5 American Women's Club Founders' Day Celebration luncheon on what the AWC club means to her as a mother, an American and as Consul General.

Approximately 58 AWC members attended the luncheon which was held at the Sirocco Restaurant in Burswood.

## U.S. Submariners' Memorial Service

Captain Mike Donnelly USN (ret) represented the Consulate General at the U.S. Submariners' Memorial Service on Thursday, 7 September at St. George's Cathedral. The service was attended by several of the surviving widows of U.S. submariners who embarked on subs from Fremantle in 1941 and 1942. It was coordinated by the Reverend Tim Harrison, with the address by the Canon Pastor Theresa Harvey. A light luncheon followed the service and Mike said he was able to speak with the people at all five tables. He said it was a "moving service as we sang Advance Australia Fair, the Navy Hymn (Eternal Father) and the U.S. National Anthem."

**Captain Mike Donnelly USN (ret)**





## DVC on U.S. Mid-Term Elections



Think Tank Future Directions International Advisors Andrew Pickford & Barry Patterson with CG McClellan

Dr. James A. Thurber, Professor of Government and Director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies was the speaker at the Consulate General's Digital Video Conference on the U.S. Mid-Term Elections held at the Commonwealth Law Courts on September 6, 2006.

The audience was comprised primarily of representatives from think tanks, government officials, academics, media representatives, Consulate staff, and individuals interested in politics. Dr. Thurber presented a detailed analysis on the upcoming U.S. Mid-Term Elections, including his thoughts on specific seats and the possible implications of a shift in control of the House of Representatives and/or Senate to the Democrats.

## Consulate Staff Farewell Intern Nisreen Bajis

We were very fortunate to have Nisreen Bajis intern at the Consulate from January to August, 2006. Throughout her internship, Nisreen was a valuable member of our team, supporting each of the Consulate's main sections as the need arose. Nisreen offered her time and energy to support several Consulate events, and she represented the Consulate with aplomb. She assisted with numerous research projects, bringing her impressive organizational and writing skills into play. She was quick to identify critical issues, and she put together background material for a wide range of reports produced by the Consulate.

Nisreen is about to complete a graduate law degree at UWA, and she has a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Political Science and English. She says her professional ambition is to work within the realm of both international law and politics, paying special attention to diplomacy. Nisreen commented that the internship at the Consulate was able to provide her with a further understanding of diplomatic relations.

We are very sad to say goodbye to Nisreen, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors. Stay in touch!



CG McClellan presents Nisreen Bajis with a Certificate of Appreciation for her wonderful support to the U.S. Consulate General Perth throughout her internship.

## Liebe Group 2006 Spring Field Day



**Above: Buntine Farmer Stuart McAlpine, CG McClellan, Dalwallinu Farmer Harry Hyde, Liebe Group Representative Sophie Keogh. Below: The CG at Buntine Primary.**



The Consul General was the guest speaker at the 2006 Spring Field Day in Buntine on 14 September. CG McClellan spoke about the similarities between rural America and Australia, drawing from her own farm background, and spoke about the Free Trade Agreement and U.S. agriculture to approximately 150 Field Day guests.

Field presentations included a Department of Agriculture wheat performance trial, as well as trials on weed management in lupins, canola and wheat varieties, new herbicides, and new fertilizer.

A highlight for the day was Binnu farmer, Don Nairn's "Rappa" speed fencing demonstration which showed how, with the use of a motorcycle, a fence with three lines could be erected and dismantled with ease. Non-field presentations included talks on precision agriculture and weedseeker technology, as well as how to choose an appropriate GPS system.

The rather warm day ended with a "guess the beer competition" as well as lupin sausage tastings at a barbecue held while the sun was setting.

While visiting Buntine, the Consul General also had a great discussion with students and teachers at the primary school.

## Youth With a Mission

Did you know there are dozens of American Citizens volunteering in Western Australia with Youth With a Mission (YWAM)? Consul General McClellan visited YWAM on September 19 to learn more about the group's mission and meet with members of the international organization of Christians from many denominations who are dedicated to addressing humanitarian needs all over the world.

Staff member Sabo Jise said, "like many of us here at YWAM, she [the CG] has travelled extensively too, at times living in developing nations and now calls Perth her home. It seems that she [the CG] has gained much from all those experiences and now carries them with her in her current role. It was good to hear a bit about the diplomatic big picture and relations between the U.S. and Australia."



**Youth With a Mission Representatives with CG McClellan**



# DVC on Weapons of Mass Destruction and Nuclear Arms Control



**President of the Red Cross Humanitarian Law Unit Harpal Ahluwalia and other participants at the DVC.**

The Australian Red Cross' International Humanitarian Law Unit joined the Consulate General in hosting a Digital Video Conference on Weapons of Mass Destruction and Nuclear Arms Control at the Commonwealth Law Courts on Wednesday, September 20.

Dr. Anthony Cordesman, the Arleigh A. Burke Chair in Strategy at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington DC presented a detailed analysis on this complex issue. He emphasized that given technology is always moving forward and states have their own agenda, the issue of WMDs and nuclear arms control poses a very complex global problem. He relayed the message that international legal agreements and treaties can be viewed through the lens of changing technology and he discussed the practical challenges of national decision making in relation to these issues.

The audience at the DVC was comprised of approximately 30 members of the Australian Red Cross' International Humanitarian Law Unit, representatives of think tank organization Future Directions International (FDI), students, Consulate staff, and individuals interested in international relations.

## U.S./Australia Affinity Groups

Interested in meeting other Americans? Are you an Australian or resident with special ties to the United States? Just want to meet some fun people? One of these groups should fit you to a "T."

**The American Women's Club** (open to women of all nationalities) - AWC President Andrea Chatterji, 9383 2930  
- or [www.AWCPerth.org](http://www.AWCPerth.org)

**American Chamber of Commerce WA** - AmCham WA  
General Manager Penelope Williamson - 9325 9540

**The Australian American Association** - Membership  
Coordinator Richard Adams - 9284 6288

**The North American Veterans' Unit** — Senior Officer,  
Mike Donnelly, 9202 1224

## **Fulbright Scholar Surya Singh**

introduced and demonstrated robots to a kindergarten class of around 30 children at Nedlands Primary School on September 8. They covered robots in the home, at work, and in the movies. The basics of levers, gears, and structures were demonstrated using Legos. Together they built a fan and then a merry go round model. Ranging from 4-6 years old, the children were a real delight and full of energy. They asked many questions and were fascinated by the videos and models.

**SUS Fulbrighter Surya Singh demonstrates robots to Nedlands kindergarten students.**







## Consul General Visits Port Hedland

Consul General McClellan visited Port Hedland to speak at the “Pilbara Women In Focus — *Embracing the Challenge, Diversity and Change*” Conference in Port Hedland 21 and 22 September. The purpose of the conference was to encourage women in the Pilbara to identify and take advantage of the opportunities available to them during the Pilbara’s current unprecedented phase of regional growth. The conference also included a series of workshops with well credentialed presenters. Other eminent speakers included the Federal Commissioner for Sexual Discrimination, Ms. Pru Goward; Magistrate Dr. Sue Gordon; the State Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, the Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLA; and Dr. Susan Maushart, Journalist and Author.



**CG McClellan with the Hon Shelley Archer, MLC State Member for the Mining & Pastoral Region and Manager Social Development/Pilbara Development Commission, Trish Barron**



**Year 10, 11 and 12 Hedland Senior High School students with CG McClellan**

The CG also visited the Hedland Senior

High School and met with Year 10, 11 and 12 students. The CG shared some of her experiences as a Consul General with the students and discussed how she represents the U.S. and U.S. policies abroad. She encouraged the students to chase their dreams and she emphasized that growing up in a small community has many benefits.



Following the school visit, the CG attended a luncheon hosted by the Pilbara Development Commission and then toured the BHP Billiton Iron Ore Plant in Port Hedland.

**BHP Billiton staff and conference participants at the iron ore facilities in Port Hedland.**

## **STATE DEPARTMENT TRAVEL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC WARNINGS**

Travel warnings and public announcements are available on the Department of State website at <http://www.travel.state.gov> or outside the U.S and Canada call toll free 1-317-472-2328



### **American College & University Information Advising Service**

The American College & University Information  
Advising Service office is located at:  
the University of Western Australia,  
Physics Building, 2nd Floor. Contact Ms. Lee Healy at  
6488-8680

[edadvper@cyllene.uwa.edu.au](mailto:edadvper@cyllene.uwa.edu.au)

For more information, visit:

<http://usembassy-australia.state.gov/education>

### **Online Registration:**

<https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs>

The State Department's secure online travel registration website allows U.S. citizens to record foreign trips and residence information. U.S. citizens around the world who travel or reside abroad can access the IBRS (Internet-Based Registration System) either through a link on: <http://travel.state.gov> or directly at: <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs>. The IBRS will allow both short-trip and long-term travelers abroad to provide their itinerary, residence and emergency contact information. Alternatively, you may complete a printed registration form available from our website at:

<http://perth.usconsulate.gov>

## **ANOUTCHKA'S TRIVIA QUESTION**

Anoutchka Payet, Receptionist for the American Consulate

Q: Who was the first U.S. President to adopt the informal version of his first name?

### **LAST TRIVIA QUESTION:**

Q: Who wrote the familiar poem inscribed on the Statue of Liberty?

A: Emma Lazarus





## Commander's Corner



Reported by Navy News Service 12 SEP 2006



Vice Adm. Doug Crowder relieved Vice Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert as Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet, during a ceremony held on the USS Blue Ridge Sept. 12.

Hailing from Greensboro, N.C., Crowder attended the U.S. Naval Academy, graduating in June 1974. He has served on a number of U.S. naval warships in both the Pacific and Atlantic fleets, and is no stranger to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations.

Crowder served as commander of the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Carrier Strike Group from July 2004 to August 2005, deploying to the Western Pacific, and served as commander, Combined Support Group Indonesia, as part of Operation Unified Assistance. Crowder's previous flag assignments were as director, Deep Blue, the Navy Operations Group, from August 2002 to May 2004, director, Operations, Plans and Political Military Affairs Division from September 2001 to October 2002 — both on the staff of the chief of naval operations.

In 1980, he was selected as an Olmsted Scholar and studied European economic and political affairs at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, from 1980 to 1982. In November 1982, he was awarded the Jean Monnet Medal for Leadership by the President of the French Senate in Paris.

Crowder is the 45th commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet, which has responsibility for all naval forces in an area spanning more than 52 million square miles of the Pacific and Indian oceans, stretching from the international date line to the east coast of Africa, and from the Kuril Islands in the north to the Antarctic in the south.



## Press Coverage of the Consulate General During September

**Sept 6** — Coverage in the *Avon Valley Advocate* on the Dowerin Field Day.

**Sept 7** — Ambassador McCallum interview with Geoff Hutchison on the ABC Radio morning show

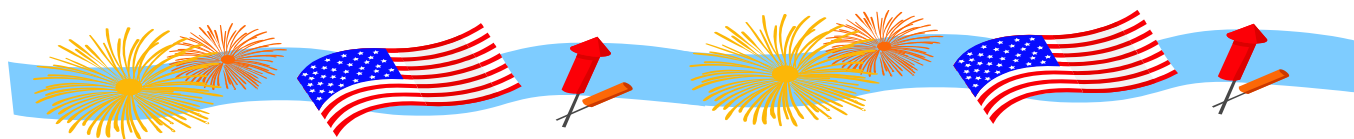
**Sept 7** — Ambassador McCallum interview with Howard Sattler on 6PR's Drive show

**Sept 9** — Article in *The West Australian* "New U.S. envoy takes a clean U-view."

**Sept 14** — Article in *WA Business News* "Revive trade talks — U.S. Ambassador."

**Sept 15** — Article in *Farm Weekly*: "New Ambassador dead bats Iraq wheat rivalry."

**Sept 27** — Coverage in the *North West Telegraph*, "US Consul General loves country visits."



## 2006 U.S. Elections Notice

### Registration, Absentee Ballot Request Deadlines Approaching

U.S. citizens who plan to vote in the upcoming mid-term elections on November 7, 2006 are urged to submit their voter registration and/or absentee ballot requests **without delay**. Use the Federal Post Card Application, available on-line from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) website at <http://www.fvap.gov>.

Each state has its own regulations and deadlines for registering and requesting absentee ballots. Your state may require receipt of your request as early as 30 days before the election. Check the FVAP website for guidance – [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov)

### Upcoming U.S./Australia Affinity Group Events

#### American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham)

November 23 Thanksgiving Day Luncheon at the Hilton Hotel

Contact: Penelope Williamson at [wa@amcham.com.au](mailto:wa@amcham.com.au)

#### American Women's Club (AWC)

In addition to AWC's monthly activities of moms and babes, golden girls, quilting, golf, lunch and wine in Swan Valley, Diva Day, and new members' coffee, other activities include:

October 29 Halloween Festival with Trunk or Treat and Haunted House

October 20-29 Volunteering with MS Production of Guys & Dolls

November 7 The Melbourne Cup Day General Meeting

November 23 AWC Thanksgiving Dinner at the Royal Perth Yacht Club

Contact: Andrea Chatterji at [president@awcperth.org](mailto:president@awcperth.org)

#### Australian American Association (AAA)

November 7 Melbourne Cup with AAA at The Hyatt Regency Hotel

December 2 Christmas Dinner Under the Stars in the garden of Norma and Max Kay

December 10 Annual Veterans' Day Picnic at the Vietnam Veterans' Pavilion

Contact: Susie Glasfurd at [secretary.aaawa@westnet.com.au](mailto:secretary.aaawa@westnet.com.au)

#### North American Veterans' Unit (NAVU)

Contact: Mike Donnelly, Senior Officer, 9202 1224